

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 RIYADH 00317 021147Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 FCC-01 DODE-00

CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 OC-06

ICA-11 COME-00 BIB-01 /073 W

-----129231 021245Z /64

R 020917Z MAY 78

FM USLO RIYADH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 453

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE RIYADH 317

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, WARC, ITU, EG, IR, MO, SA

SUBJECT: PREPARATION FOR 1979 WARC - REPORT OF VISITS

REF (A) STATE 83133, (B) STATE 101650

1. FOLLOWING IS SENT BY SHRUM (EB/TD) OF VISITING WARC TEAM.
HUFFCUTT (EB/TD) IS REQUESTED TO PASS TO PROBST, CUTTS AND
SOLOMON (DOD).

2. THE MID-EAST WARC TEAM, CONSISTING OF SHRUM, ARBANY (NTIA),
COOK (DOD) AND TYCA (FCC), COMPLETED TWO VISITS DURING THE
FIRST WEEK OF THE TRIP. DISCUSSIONS WERE HELD IN RABAT,
MOROCCO ON APRIL 25 AND 26 AND IN CAIRO, EGYPT ON APRIL 28 AND 29.
IN EACH CASE THE TEAM IDENTIFIED AND MET WITH KEY OFFICIALS
OF AGENCIES/DEPARTMENTS RESPONSIBLE FOR 1979 WARC PREPARATIONS.
IN EACH CASE OFFICIALS HAD NOT STARED FORMAL PREPARATION OR
GIVEN MUCH DETAILED THOUGHT TO THE ISSUES, WITH THE EXCEPTION
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 RIYADH 00317 021147Z

OF BROADCASTING INTERESTS OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION
(MININFO) WHICH WERE AWARE OF THE WARC ACTIVITIES OF VOA, EBU,
ABU, ARABBU, ETC. IN SUMMARY THE DISCUSSIONS WERE CONSIDERED
TO BE VERY WORTHWHILE TO U.S. WARC INTERESTS. IN THE WORDS
OF THE EMBASSY RABAT ECON/OFF, THE FOREIGN OFFICIALS APPEARED TO
APPRECIATE THE INTEREST WE HAVE SHOWN IN VISITING THEIR
COUNTRIES (I.E., THEIR IMPORTANCE IN OUR EYES) AND TO BE

IMPRESSED BY OUR EFFORT TO SEEK OUT THEIR VIEWS AND TEQUIRE-
MENTS. A DETAILED REPORT IS BEING PREPARED BY THE REAM FOR
APPROPRIATE DISTRIBUTION.

2. MOROCCO: THE TEAM MET WITH DCM JAY MOFFAT AND BRIEFED KEY
EMBOFFS ON WARC ISSUES ON APRIL 25. MEETING WITH MOROCCANS
WAS HELD ON APRIL 26. THE KEY OFFICIAL ATTENDING WAS MOHAMED
MOHCINE, DIRECTOR OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS, PTT, WHO HAS
RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL FREQUENCY MANAGEMENT AND ITU
ACTIVITIES. HE WAS JOINED BY WAKKRIM AND LEBBADDY OF HIS STAFF,
AND BY TANANE AND HAMAN OF THE MOROCCAN RADIO"TV NETWORK,
MININFO. ECONOFFS HOSTED A SMALL DINNER IN THE EVENING
WHICH WAS ATTENDED BY TANANE AND HAMAN. SEVERAL KEY ITEMS
LEARNED FROM THE VISIT ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. MININFO IS PROPOSING A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN INTERNATIONAL
BROADCASTING FOR WORLDWIDE COVERAGE OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS.
HOWEVER PROPOSAL STILL REQUIRES NATIONAL BUDGET AND PTT APPROVAL.
MININFO REPRESENTATIVES FELT THAT HFBC SERVICE COULD CONVERT TO SINGLE

SIDEBAND IN 3-4 YEARS AFTER THE WARC.

?. PTT SEES INCREASED USE OF DOMESTIC HF FIXED IN THE FUTURE --
THERE IS VERY LITTLE INTERNATIONAL USE AT PRESENT -- AND IS DOUBTFUL
THAT FIXED ALLOCATIONS COULD BE REDUCED. THEY SUGGESTED REDUCTION
OF AERONAUTICAL MOBILE TO MEET EXPANDING HF REQUIREMENTS.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 RIYADH 00317 021147Z

C. CONCERNING REGULATORY PROCEDURES THEY EXPRESSED GENERAL CONCERN
WITH THE FIRST COME-FIRST SERVE PRINCIPLE. WHILE MOROCCO IS
SATISFIED WITH EXISTING PROCEDURES, THEY CLEARLY RECOGNIZE NEED TO
MEET FUTURE REQUIREMENTS OF ALL COUNTRIES AND TO ADJUST REGULATIONS
(NOT NECESSARILY IN 1979) TO ACCOMMODATE THE FUTURE.

D. ARABSAT WILL BE A VERY IMPORTANT SYSTEM TO MOROCCO, PROVIDING
REGIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS, TELEVISION DISTRIBUTION AND EDUCATIONAL/
CULTURAL PROGRAMMING. DOMESTICALLY, THE SATELLITE WILL SUPPLEMENT
EXISTING AND PLANNED TERRESTRIAL NETWORKS, BUT WILL NOT REPLACE
HF FIXED OPERATIONS IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

3. EGYPT: THE TEAM MET ON APRIL 28 WITH MOURSI SAAD EL DIN,
DIRECTOR OF THE EGYPTIAN INFORMATION SERVICE, MININFO, AND HIS
ASSISTANT NABIL SAAD, WHO HAS BEEN ASSIGNED OVERALL COORDINATION
RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE 1979 WARC AND OTHER IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL
ISSUES. WITH HIS ENTHUSIASTIC ASSISTANCE THE TEAM MET SEPARATELY
WITH MININFO AND PTT OFFICIALS ON APRIL 29. MININFO PARTICIPANS
WERE ARAFA ZAYAN, CHAIRMAN OF THE BROADCASTING AND TV FEDERATION,
A.H. ANTAR, DIRECTOR OF GENERAL TRANSMISSION, AND GEORGE RAHER.
THE KEY PTT OFFICIAL WAS HELMY ABOU ALY, UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE

FOR INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS, TELECOMMUNICATIONS ORGANIZATION, MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS. THE TEAM ALSO BRIEFED EMBOFFS ON THE ISSUES AND IMPORTANCE OF WARC ISSUES. SOME MAJOR POINTS PICKED UP IN CAIRO ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. MININFO PLANS TO DOUBLE INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING WHICH THEY NOW OPERATE NINETY (90) PERCENT OUT-OF-BAND. THEREFORE THEY WILL(RECOMMEND

TO THE PTT AN ALLOCATION INCREASE FOR HFBC AS NOW BEING PROPOSED BY EBU, ETC.

B. PTT OFFICIALS WERE PARTICULARLY NON-CIMMITTAL, OFFERING SPECIFIC COMMENT ON VERY FEW ISSUES. THEY STRESSED THEIR NEED TO SOLICIT VIEWS FORM ALL AGENCIES CONCERNED (MILITARY, BROADCAST, PRIVATE, ETC. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 RIYADH 00317 021147Z

)
AND TO TRY TO ACCOMMODATE ALL REQUIREMENTS TO EXTENT POSSIBLE IN DEVELOPING A NATIONAL POSITION FOR WARC.

C. MININFO REPRESENTATIVES ADVISED TEAM OF SIZEABLE PLANS TO EXPAND FM-RADIO AND TO IMPLEMENT UHF-TELEVISION SERVICES WITHIN THE NEXT COUPLE OF YEARS.

4. OTHER POINT: THE WARC TEAM RECEIVED EXCELLENT SUPPORT FROM BOTH EMBASSIES CONCERNED, WHICH INCLUDED TRAVEL CHANGES, OBTAINING VISAS, INTERPRETER SERVICES AND GENERAL COORDINATION OF THE VISIT. WE ARE PARTICULARLY GRATEFUL FOR SEVERAL OBSERVATIONS MADE BY THE ECONOFF IN RABAT, WHO IMMEDIATELY GRASPED THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE 1979 WARC DURING OUR BRIEFING. HE POINTED OUT THE URGENT NEED TO SENSITIZE EMBASSIES TO THE ISSUES AND IMPORTANCE OF WARC, SUPPORTING THE NEED TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO KEY POSTS (I.E., THE AIRGRAM RECENTLY DISCUSSED IN EB/TD FOR DISTRIBUTION BY THE MIDDLE OF JUNE). HE SUGGESTED A PROGRAM OF INVITING KEY OFFICIALS TO THE U.S. ON A SHARED-COST BASIS, CITING THE RECENT VISIT OF MUSSA SAASI, MOROCCAN MINISTER OF ENERGY, AS A VERY SUCCESSFUL EXAMPLE OF THE POTENTIAL BENEFITS FOR THE U.S. FINALLY HE RECONFIRMED THE VIEW OF SEVERAL TEAM MEMBERS THAT CONSIDERABLE BENEFITS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM SMALL SOCIAL EVENTS, E.G., DINNER OR COCKTAIL PARTY, WITH THE FOREIGN OFFICIALS FOLLOWING WARC DISCUSSIONS. IN THIS REGARD THE MEMO ON THIS SUBJECT WILL RECOMMEND THAT THE NECESSARY FUNDS BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR SUCH FUNCTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH ALL WARC TEAM VISITS.

GNEHM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, PLANNING MEETINGS, VISITS, CONSULTANTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978RIYADH00317
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780186-0906
Format: TEL
From: RIYADH
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197805102/aaaadiyj.tel
Line Count: 163
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b331d593-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 83133, 78 STATE 101650
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2517837
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PREPARATION FOR 1979 WARC - REPORT OF VISITS
TAGS: ETEL, EG, IR, MO, SA, ITU, WARC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b331d593-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014